

## CLAIMS

5           1. A method by which a computing system responds to an event that wakes the computing system from a sleep mode, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) recognizing the event by the computing system;

10           (b) responding to the event by the computing system, including the following substeps:

(b.1) generating an event notification message, and

(b.2) transmitting the event notification message to an external device separate from the computing system, the transmitting being performed via wireless communication; and,

15           (c) returning the computing system to the sleep mode.

20           2. A method as in claim 1 wherein in substep (b.2) the external device is one of the following:

a personal digital assistant;

a cell phone;

a pager;

a dedicated display device.

25           3. A method as in claim 1 wherein the event is one of the following:  
an incoming call to the computing system;  
an alarm from a calendar program operating within the computing system;

an incoming fax communication;

an incoming e-mail communication;

30           an inquiry from the external device;

receipt of positioning information.

4. A method as in claim 1 wherein in substep (b.2) the transmission is made by the computing system directly to the external device via a wireless network.

5 5. A method as in claim 1 wherein in substep (b.2) the transmission is made by the computing system to the external device via a wireless modem.

6. A method as in claim 1:

wherein the event is an inquiry from the external device; and

10 wherein in substep (b.2) the event notification message includes a response to the inquiry from the external device.

7. A method as in claim 1 wherein the event is one of the following:

15 an access by the electronic device into a database within the computing system;

an access into a calendaring program within the computing program.

8. A method as in claim 1:

20 wherein the event is an incoming phone call to the computing system; and,

wherein the step (b) additionally includes the following substep:

25 (b.3) providing a pop-up window that displays information pertaining to the phone call, the pop-up window being displayed to a user upon the user awakening the computing system.

9. A method as in claim 1 additionally comprising the following step:

(d) queuing up the event notification message for retransmission when no receipt acknowledgement is received by the computing system.

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10. A method as in claim 1 additionally comprising the following step:  
(d) retransmitting the event notification message when no receipt acknowledgement is received by the computing system.

5 11. Storage media, the storage media storing software which when executing on a computing system performs a method by which the computing system responds to an event that wakes the computing system from a sleep mode, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) recognizing the event by the computing system;

10 (b) responding to the event by the computing system, including the following substeps:

(b.1) generating an event notification message, and

(b.2) transmitting the event notification message to an external device separate from the computing system, the transmitting being performed  
15 via wireless communication; and,

(c) returning the computing system to the sleep mode.

12. Storage media as in claim 11 wherein in substep (b.2) the external device is one of the following:

20 a personal digital assistant;

a cell phone;

a pager;

a dedicated display device.

25 13. Storage media as in claim 11 wherein the event is one of the following:

a incoming call to the computing system;

an alarm from a calendar program operating within the computing system;

an incoming fax communication;  
an incoming e-mail communication;  
an inquiry from the external device;  
receipt of positioning information.

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14. Storage media as in claim 11 wherein in substep (b.2) the transmission is made by the computing system directly to the external device via a wireless network.

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15. Storage media as in claim 11 wherein in substep (b.2) the transmission is made by the computing system to the external device via a wireless modem.

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16. Storage media as in claim 11:  
wherein the event is an inquiry from the external device; and,  
wherein in substep (b.2) the event notification message includes a response to the inquiry from the external device.

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17. Storage media as in claim 11 wherein the event is one of the following:

an access by the electronic device into a database within the computing system;

an access into a calendaring program within the computing system program.

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18. Storage media as in claim 11:  
wherein the event is an incoming phone call to the computing system;  
and,

wherein the step (b) additionally includes the following substep:

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(b.3) providing a pop-up window that displays information pertaining to the phone call, the pop-up window being displayed to a user upon the user awakening the computing system.

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19. A method performed by a computing system, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) waking the computing system from a sleep mode upon receiving a cellular phone call to the computing system;

5 (b) providing a pop-up window that displays information pertaining to the phone call, the pop-up window being displayed to a user upon the user awakening the computing system; and,

(c) returning the computing system to the sleep mode.

10 20. A method performed by a computing system, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) waking the computing system from a sleep mode upon receiving an inquiry sent to the computing system from an external device;

15 (b) responding to the inquiry by the computing system, including the following substeps:

(b.1) generating an event notification message, and

(b.2) transmitting the event notification message back to the external device, the transmitting being performed via wireless communication; and,

20 (c) returning the computing system to the sleep mode.

21. A method as in claim 20 wherein the inquiry is one of the following:  
an access by the electronic device into a database within the computing system;

25 an access into a calendaring program within the computing system program.

22. A method as in claim 20 wherein external device is one of the following:

30 a cell phone;

a pager;

a dedicated display device.